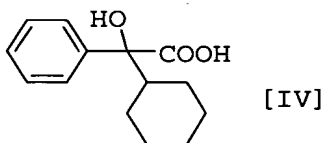
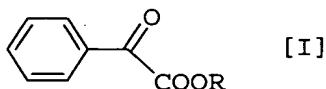


AB wherein R is linear or branched chain alkyl having 1 to 15 carbon atom(s), which is optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, norbornyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl and benzoylcarbonyloxy, or cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or norbornyl, which is optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of linear or branched chain alkyl having 1 to 15 carbon atom(s) and phenyl or an optically active form thereof, with cyclohexene in the presence of a Lewis acid to give a compound of claim 1 and hydrolyzing the same.

24. (Amended) A method of producing 2-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-2-phenylacetic acid of the formula [IV]



, an optically active form thereof or a salt thereof, which method comprises reacting a compound of the formula [I]



wherein R is linear or branched chain alkyl having 1 to 15 carbon atom(s), which is optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, norbornyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl and benzoylcarbonyloxy, or cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or norbornyl, which is optionally substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of linear or branched chain alkyl having 1 to 15 carbon atom(s) and phenyl or an optically active form thereof, with cyclohexene in the presence of a Lewis acid to give a compound of claim 1, and subjecting the same to hydrolysis and reduction.

#### REMARKS

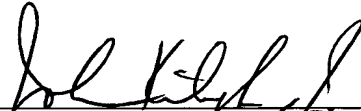
The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to place the claims in a format more consistent with U.S. patent practice. No substantive amendments have been

In re Appln. of Ikemoto et al.  
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made to the claims, and the scope of the claims was not altered. Accordingly, no new matter has been added by way of these claim amendments.

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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